



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**For Immediate Release**

February 25, 2005

**FORMER CITY OFFICIALS STEVE LABRAKE AND PAULETTE LYNNE LABRAKE**  
**SENTENCED FOR CRIMES RELATED TO DEALINGS WITH UNITED STATES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

Tampa, Florida - U.S. District Judge Richard A. Lazzara, today sentenced STEVE ALLEN LABRAKE, his wife PAULETTE LYNNE LABRAKE and CHESTER MAURICE LUNEY for conspiracy, wire fraud, and bribery, in connection with public corruption-related offenses and federal violations arising from corruption in the administration and disbursement of grants from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. STEVE ALLEN LABRAKE, age 53, was sentenced to 60 months' imprisonment and 3 years' supervised release. PAULETTE LYNNE LABRAKE, age 34, was sentenced to 41 months' imprisonment and 3 years' supervised release. And CHESTER MAURICE LUNEY, age 60, was sentenced to 33 months' imprisonment and 3 years' supervised release. The three defendants were each ordered to pay \$142,000.00 in restitution. The LABRAKES and LUNEY were found guilty by a federal jury on November 30, 2004.

Yesterday, Judge Lazzara sentenced DEAN R. RYAN, age 66, to five years' probation, to include six months' home detention, for conspiracy to defraud and commit offenses against the United States and for bribing a public official. RYAN was also ordered to pay \$72,000 in restitution. He pled guilty to the charges on October 25, 2004.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General (OIG), the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, (OIG). This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill.